

Evangelical Truth and Apostolic Order.

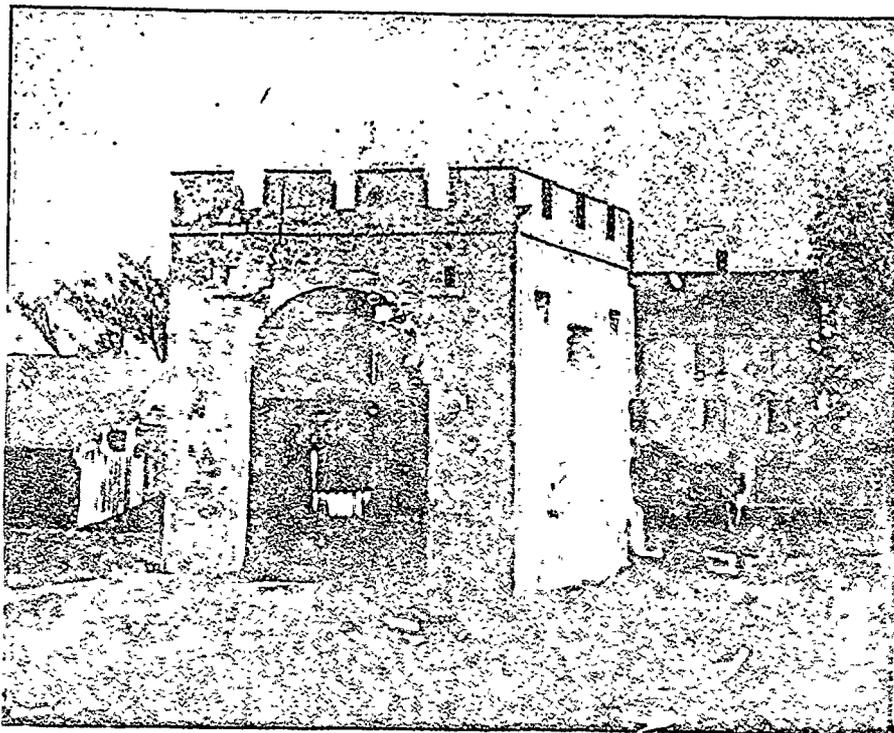
# The Western Churchman

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## St. John's College.

CONTRIBUTED BY REV. CANON MATHESON

A historical sketch of St. John's College takes us back to very early days in the history of the Red River Colony in Rupert's Land.

In 1820, the Rev. John West arrived in the country. Shortly after his arrival he established a school at what is now St. John's. The Rev. David Jones, on coming out from England in 1823, took the school under his management and greatly extended its operations. It was not, however, until the arrival of the Rev. John Macallum in 1831 that the subject of higher education was really taken up. Up to this time nothing beyond a common school education was attempted, but under Mr. Macallum the school at St. John's assumed a different aspect and began to partake more of the nature of a High School. To indicate the advance in the standing of the school, it ceased to be called St. John's School, and took the more pretentious name of "The Red River Acad-

emy." It was largely patronized by some of the officers of the Hudson's Bay Company, who were thus spared the trouble and expense of going abroad for their education. During a considerable portion of this period, Mr. Lumsden was associated with the work of the school as resident tutor. The head master, Mr. Macallum, was in every respect splendidly adapted for the position which he held. He was a man of scholarly attainments, and combined with these excellent disciplinary powers, and a rare tact. It was not to be wondered at that under such a man the Academy produced good results. The study of classics and mathematics was taken up and prosecuted with vigor, and many men of more than ordinary scholarship were turned out of the Academy at that time. Among the most distinguished of these may be mentioned, the late Dr. A. K. Isbister, to whose munificent liberality Manitoba University owes so much for her scholarship funds. On going to England, Mr. Isbister showed that he could more than hold his own with men of more privileged lands, and the honors which were conferred upon him by English Universities are an evidence of the excellent training which he re-